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KIDDERMINSTER

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR
1946

JAMES R. CRAIG, M.B., Ch.B., M.C.

(Medical Officer of Health)

G. A. NORTH, M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I., M.Inst.P.C.

(Chief Sanitary Inspector)



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HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman — — — — COUNCILLOR R. F. LURRING

Vice Chairman — ALDERMAN SIR GEORGE EDDY, O.B.E., J.P.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(Alderman A. E. Meredith).

THE DEPUTY MAYOR
(Alderman Miss E. C. Addenbrooke).

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,,	H. W. CHESHIRE, J.P.	,,	A. T. DANKS
Councillor	L. E. GARDNER	,,	A. H. DUDLEY
,,	W. H. MICKLEWRIGHT	,,	B. J. FOSTER
,,	J. H. POWELL	,,	B. THOMPSON
,,	J. E. TALBOT	,,	A. C. ROWLEY
,,	H. PARKER		

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :
JAMES R. CRAIG, M.B., Ch.B., M.C.

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER :
J. CRISP GRIFFITHS, M.D. (Lond.).

MEDICAL OFFICER (INFANT WELFARE CENTRES) :
P. DIGBY GRIFFITHS, M.B., B.Chir.

MEDICAL OFFICER—ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS :
R. HILL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

PUBLIC ANALYST :
M. M. LOVE, F.R.I.C.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND FOOD AND DRUGS INSPECTOR :
G. A. NORTH, M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I., M.Inst.P.C.
(Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector).

SANITARY INSPECTOR :
J. B. HINTON, Cert. S.I.B., A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector).

HEALTH VISITORS :
Miss E. E. MELLOR, S.R.N., S.C.M., C.R.San.I.
Miss A. W. GAFFNEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., C.R.San.I.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1946 and 1945

	1946	1945
Area of District in Acres	4694	4694
Population at Census, 1931	28917	28917
Estimated Population (mid-year) for Birth Rate and Death Rate	35670	34670
No. of Inhabited Houses, estimated ...	10500	10207
No. of Persons per House	3.39	3.39
Rateable Value	£190849	£190849
Sum Represented by Penny Rate	£752	£752
Number of Marriages	406	425
Number of Live Births	749	715
Nett Birth Rate	20.99	20.62
Birth Rate for England and Wales (Live Births)	19.1	16.1
Number of Illegitimate Births	76	114
Number of Deaths	396	424
Nett Death Rate	11.10	12.23
Death Rate for England and Wales ...	11.5	11.40
No. of Deaths under one year of age ...	29	39
Of these there were Illegitimate	3	10
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births ...	37.41	54.54
Infantile Mortality for England and Wales	43	46
Total Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	Nil	8
No. of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	23	26
No. of Deaths from Cancer	69	71
No. of Deaths from Influenza	2	1
No. of Deaths from Measles	Nil	Nil
No. of Deaths from Whooping Cough ...	1	Nil
Rainfall in inches	31.8	20.45

Year	Births	Deaths	Births over Deaths increase
1940	504	492	12
1941	577	471	106
1942	670	384	286
1943	681	430	251
1944	730	418	312
1945	715	424	291
1946	749	396	353

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1946.

TOWN HALL,
KIDDERMINSTER,

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HEALTH COMMITTEE,

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The Minister of Health has indicated that the Report for 1946 should follow the same lines as previous war time reports, providing for the continuity of important vital statistics. A certain latitude in reference to various war time expansions of local services has been allowed.

Certain features of the vital statistics detailed on the previous page are worthy of special note :—

The Death Rate (11.10), slightly lower than in 1945, compares favourably with that of the country as a whole (11.5).

The Birth Rate (21.69) is again up, that of 1945 being 20.62. This record birth rate is above that of England and Wales (19.1). For purposes of comparison, the average birth rate for the five years before the War was 15.11. The natural increase of the population, *i.e.* the excess of births over deaths, was 353. The natural increase of the population for the five years ending 1938, was 384, that for the five year period ending December, 1946 is 1,493. This figure is of importance in computing housing requirements of the future.

Of the total live and still births in 1946 (775) seventy nine were illegitimate. A slight improvement on 1945, but still much too high and more than double the pre war average.

There is a gratifying drop in the Infant Mortality Rate from 54.5 in 1945, to 37.41 in 1946.

The mortality from Notifiable Diseases which has been so remarkably low throughout the war years, continues to be satisfactory. No deaths from scarlet fever or measles, one from whooping cough and one from diphtheria in an un-inoculated child of eleven.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1946.

Total Births (Live and Still)	...	...	...	...	775
Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	21.69
Birth Rate (England and Wales) (Live and Still)	...	...	...	...	19.63
Total Live Births	...	...	...	...	749
Birth Rate (Live)	...	...	...	...	20.99
Birth Rate (England and Wales) (Live)	...	...	...	...	19.1

LIVE BIRTHS :

		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>		
Legitimate	673	335	338		
Illegitimate	76	37	39		
STILL BIRTHS :			Total	...	26
Legitimate	23	10	13		
Illegitimate	3	2	1		

Deaths	396	Death Rate	...	11.10			
Death Rate (England and Wales) 1946	...	...	...	11.5			
Percentage of total deaths occurring in public institutions				38.63			
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth		from sepsis	....	Nil			
		from other causes		Nil			
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Total Births)	...			Nil			
Maternal Mortality Rate (England and Wales)	...			0.37			
Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—							
Legitimate	...	26	Illegitimate	...	3	Total	29
Deaths of Infants under one year, per 1,000 births							37.41
“	“	“	„	(England & Wales, 1946)			43.00
Death Rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births							38.63
Death Rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births							39.47
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)							69
Deaths from Measles (all ages)							Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)							1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)							Nil

The ages at which deaths have taken place during 1946 are as follows :—

Under 1 year	.....	.....	.....	.....	29
Between 1 and 2 years	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Between 2 and 5 years	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Between 5 and 15 years	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Between 15 and 25 years	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Between 25 and 45 years	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
Between 45 and 65 years	.....	.....	.....	.....	82
65 years and upwards	.....	.....	.....	.....	248
					396

The following table shows the ages at which the deaths of Infants under 1 year of age occurred :

Under 1 Week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
18	2	—	—	20	5	1	2	1	29

The causes of infant deaths were as follows :

Prematurity	.....	.....	13	Marasmus	.....	.....	1
Broncho Pneu.	.....	.....	1	Convulsions	.....	.....	1
Asphyxia	.....	.....	3	Toxaemia	.....	.....	2
Spina Bifida	.....	.....	1	Congenital Heart Disease	.....	.....	1
Atelectasis	.....	.....	2	Haemorrhage of Newly born	.....	.....	1
Cardiac Failure	.....	.....	1	Suffocation due to Drowning	.....	.....	1
Oedema of Lungs	.....	.....	1				

NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM EACH DISEASE AND SEX

Cause of Death	Male	Female
1.—Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers ...	—	—
2.—Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—
3.—Scarlet fever	—	—
4.—Whooping Cough	1	—
5.—Diphtheria... ..	—	1
6.—Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	12	8
7.—Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	2	1
8.—Syphilitic Diseases	1	—
9.—Influenza	—	2
10.—Measles	—	—
11.—Acute polio-myelitis	—	—
12.—Acute Inf. encephalitis	1	—
13.—Cancer of b. cav. and oesoph (M) uterus (F) }	4 4	4 4
14.—Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	6	11
15.—Cancer of breast	—	7
16.—Cancer of all other sites	21	16
17.—Diabetes	—	4
18.—Intra-cran. vasc. lesions	23	27
19.—Heart Disease	47	48
20.—Other diseases of Circulatory system	6	8
21.—Bronchitis	13	14
22.—Pneumonia	6	3
23.—Other Respiratory diseases	3	1
24.—Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ...	4	—
25.—Diarrhoea under 2 years	—	—
26.—Appendicitis	1	—
27.—Other digestive diseases	7	9
28.—Nephritis	4	3
29.—Puerperal and post abort. sepsis ...	—	—
30.—Other maternal causes	—	—
31.—Premature birth	4	9
32. Congenital malformations, birth injuries infant diseases	7 2	2 —
33.—Suicide	2	—
34.—Road traffic accidents	2	—
35.—Other violent causes	3	2
36.—All other causes	19	17
	199	197

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

(1). The Public Health Officers of the Authority are listed on the first page of this Report for convenient reference.

(II). (a) Laboratory Facilities.

The usual arrangements with the County Public Analyst still exist.

Extended laboratory facilities have been instituted at the Kidderminster and District General Hospital, Bacteriological Department having been opened to which any practitioner may refer cases or specimens. This has proved a valuable help in diagnosis and treatment of disease. An experienced pathologist was added to the staff in 1946.

(b) **Ambulance Facilities.** For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases two motor ambulances are maintained by the Council, staffed by the Borough Police. The highest efficiency is maintained.

(c) **Nursing in the Home.** No changes have been made in arrangements during 1946.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Name	Situation and Time of Session	Average Attendances	Provided by
Maternity & Child Welfare Centres	(1) Prospect Lane Thursday, 2—4 p.m.	53	Local Authority
	(2) St. John's Inst. Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.	31	
	(3) St. Oswald's Monday, 2—4 p.m.	43	
	(4) Sutton Park Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.	37	
	(5) Franche Clinic Friday, 2—4 p.m.	5	
Tuberculosis	Kidderminster General Hospital Thursday, 2—4 p.m. and at 5.15 p.m.	20 per week	County Council
Venereal	Kidderminster General Hospital Males Mon. 2.15 p.m. Females Thur. 5 p.m.	21 per week	County Council
Ante-Natal	Prospect Lane on 1st and 3rd Monday, 2—4 p.m.	4 per session	Local Authority
Consultative Ante Natal Clinic	Kidderminster General Hospital Weekly at 11 a.m. Wednesday		Local Authority

(e) Hospitals

(1) NORTH WORCESTERSHIRE JOINT ISOLATION HOSPITAL—For reception of infectious diseases, chiefly diphtheria and scarlet fever; typhoid fever, complicated measles and whooping cough are also admitted.

(2) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTION

No. of beds (including Children's Beds) ... 225

Maternity Beds ... 4

No. of Maternity Cases in 1946, was 101.

(3) KIDDERMINSTER AND DISTRICT GENERAL HOSPITAL—(Voluntary Hospital—Normal accommodation 145 beds). There is an X-Ray Department, Massage and Sunlight Treatment and Clinics for Dentistry, Orthopaedics, Ophthalmology, Gynaecology, Ear, Throat and Nose, Venereal Diseases and a Fracture Clinic. A Clinic for Diseases of the Skin has been added, and the activities of the Rehabilitation Centre extended.

Shortage of Nursing Staff has hampered the full use of beds during 1946.

(4) GREENHILL HOSTEL.—This institution which has provided an excellent maternity service during the war was forced to curtail its activities and ceased at mid-summer, 1946, to admit Kidderminster mothers for confinement, other than unmarried mothers.

(5) MILL STREET MATERNITY HOME—This, the first municipally owned Maternity Home, was opened on 18th August, 1946, with a nominal capacity of nine beds. The property, although it had been a Private Nursing Home for some years, was not entirely satisfactory, but the urgency of the problem brooked no delay, and it was decided to start with Mill Street as an emergency pending further developments at "The Croft," Sutton Park Road. The Committee were fortunate in securing for the position of Matron, Miss E. M. Bruce, S.R.N., S.C.M., a capable and experienced administrator, who brought with her sufficient staff to ensure a successful opening of the home. The numbers of mothers confined during 1946, was as follows :—July—1, Aug.—9, Sept.—9, Oct.—12, Nov.—16, Dec.—18. The success of the home and its speedy provision to fill up the urgent gap in the Maternity Service was almost entirely due to the enthusiasm and hard work of the Chairman of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, Councillor F. Broadbent.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.—The sources of water as detailed in the Report for 1933 are still in use and constitute the main supply, with an additional supply from the Birmingham Elan Aqueduct, the minimum agreed supply to be 8,000,000 galls. per annum. To connect up the latter three miles of 9 in. main were laid to our service reservoir, with four direct connections along its route into the town distribution.

The water supply to the area has been satisfactory in quality and quantity throughout the year. Regular bacteriological examination of the raw water is made fortnightly (weekly in the hot months). Chlorination is permanently carried out, and its efficacy checked by bacteriological examination of tap samples from various points in the town. The results of examination has always shown the water to be fit for use.

As the local well-water supply is hard (average total hardness about 21) and the subsidiary Elan supply is specially treated at its source, the question of plumbo-solvency does not arise.

TABLE OF ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES DURING 1946.

Samples taken from Borough Main Wells	...	285
Samples taken from Taps at various premises	...	70
Samples taken from Reservoir	... ... ...	4
		<hr/> 359 <hr/>

HOUSING, 1946.

The time is past to write anything about Housing. Too much has already been said about it. Action is what is required, speedily and on all cylinders.

No. of Houses built by Private Enterprise	...	4
„ „ Prefabricated Houses (temporary, etc.)	...	100
„ „ Permanent Houses built by Local Authority		31

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1946.

No case of Typhoid or Para-Typhoid occurred in 1946.

For the second year in succession, the town escaped the usual epidemic of measles, there being only five cases. There were 108 cases of Whooping-cough notified, with one death. It is doubtful if all cases were notified and during the year medical practitioners were reminded of their liability in this matter. The notification of these two diseases was made compulsory by order of the Ministry of Health in the first year of the War, in preparation for the great outburst of infectious disease which was expected to follow evacuation. It never materialized. I have never discovered any real benefit from these notifications and I am of opinion that they could be dropped without any serious effect.

Scarlet Fever.

No. of Cases Notified	...	...	...	...	16
No. of Cases Isolated in Hospital	...	...	...	...	11
Case rate per 1,000 living (Borough)	...	...	...	...	.44
„ „ „ (England & Wales)	...	...	...	...	.00
No. of deaths from Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	Nil

Diphtheria

No. of Cases Notified	...	...	...	...	11
No. of Cases Isolated in Hospital	...	...	...	...	11
Case rate per 1,000 living (Borough)	...	...	...	...	.30
„ „ „ (England & Wales)	...	...	...	...	.01
No. of Deaths from Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1
The age period of the cases : 2 under 5 ; 6 between 5 and 15 ; and 3 over 15 years.					

INOCULATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Fortnightly sessions were held throughout 1946, at Prospect Lane Clinic, and odd visits to some of the Infant Schools. The numbers inoculated were :—under 5 years, 489 ; over 5 years, 111 ; Total 600.

Since the first large-scale inoculation was carried out in 1937, there have been only two deaths from Diphtheria, both in uninoculated children. The following table is noteworthy :—

Table showing Incidence and Mortality of Diphtheria.

Year.	Total Cases.	Deaths.	Mortality rate.	Immunised Children.	
				Cases.	Deaths.
1935	74	13	17.5	—	—
1936	56	5	8.9	1	—
1937	35	1	2.8	—	—
1938	41	3	6.3	—	—
1939	6	—	—	—	—
1940	7	—	—	*2	—
1941	8	—	—	—	—
1942	9	—	—	—	—
1943	9	—	—	—	—
1944	8	—	—	—	—
1945	13	1	—	—	—
1946	11	1	9.0	—	—
	277	24	—	3	—

* Two "carriers," at the Public Assistance Hospital, evacuated from Birmingham after a blitz.

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during
the Year 1946.**

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Diphtheria	11	11	1
Scarlet Fever	16	11	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	8	4	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	—
Pneumonia	4	—	—
Anthrax	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—
Acute Polio-myelitis	1	—	—
Malaria	1	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	108	1	1
Measles	5	—	—
Meningitis	3	2	—

**Analysis of Total Notified Infectious Cases (other than
Tuberculosis) during the year 1946.**

DISEASES.

Age Groups			Malaria	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Erysipelas	Polio-Myelitis	Dysentery	Meningitis
Under 1 year	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
1—2 years	.....	.....	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—3 years	.....	.....	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3—4 years	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4—5 years	.....	.....	—	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 years	.....	.....	—	—	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15 years	.....	.....	—	—	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 years	.....	.....	1	1	—	1	3	1	—	—	1	—	—
25—35 years	.....	.....	—	—	1	1	4	1	—	—	—	—	2
35—45 years	.....	.....	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
45—65 years	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
TOTAL CASES			1	5	16	11	8	4	2	1	1	1	3

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Two cases were notified during 1946. There was complete recovery in both cases.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The expected post-war increase in Tuberculosis has, fortunately, not materialized. The number of new cases during 1946 was 24 pulmonary and 5 non-pulmonary—total 29. For purposes of comparison, I quote the annual report for 1919, which says :—“ No. of cases notified was 68 (pulmonary 51, non-pulmonary 17), thirty-seven more than in 1918.” The population in 1919 was 8,000 less than to-day. It is only by study of figures over a period of time that a true estimate of progress can be made.

During the year the possibility of sending cases to Switzerland for treatment was raised. The question was taken up with the County Council, who are the Tuberculosis Authority for this area, but after full investigation, it was found that for the present, owing chiefly to the unfavourable rate of exchange, the project was not a practical proposition.

The following table shows the number of notified cases and deaths during the last five years :—

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Death-rate (all forms) per 1,000 living.
	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	
1942	29	19	3	5	.66
1943	27	21	5	4	.70
1944	24	14	4	5	.53
1945	28	22	4	4	.75
1946	24	22	5	1	.64

New Cases and Mortality during 1946.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 years	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—
5 to 10 years	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
10 to 15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 20 years	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
20 to 25 years	5	5	—	1	2	1	—	—
25 to 35 years	1	2	—	1	1	6	—	—
35 to 45 years	2	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
45 to 55 years	6	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 to 65 years	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	17	7	2	3	15	7	1	—

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION.

Prior to the war, your Committee had under discussion the provision of a Disinfestation Centre. The outbreak of hostilities rendered any action impossible. The work is still carried out at the Kidderminster Public Assistance Institution, your Committee paying a retaining fee to a retired Officer of that Institution for supervising the work. There was a marked decrease in the amount of work in 1946.

In conclusion, I should like to point out that this is my twenty-sixth and last Annual Report, your Council have wisely decided to appoint a full-time Medical Officer of Health, a policy which is thoroughly warranted by the increase in population, the extension of Maternity and Child Welfare work, the employment of an extra Health Visitor and the expansion of Public Health Services in general. I thank you and all past members of the Health Committee for your help and support throughout my period of service, and the Staff of the Health Department for their loyal co-operation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES R. CRAIG.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1946

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Sixteenth Annual Report on the work accomplished by my Department for the year ended 31st December, 1946.

Meat and Food Inspection

The duties of Meat Inspection at the Regional Slaughterhouse, Lion Square, have again been pursued during the year to the utmost.

Set out in the following order is a synopsis of the work for the year 1946 :

NO. OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND INSPECTED.

	Cattle (exclud'g Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,390	2,120	1,433	12,348	189
Number Inspected	2,390	2,120	1,433	12,231	189

NO. OF WHOLE CARCASES (WITH ORGANS) CONDEMNED.

Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
118	23	84	5

MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFALS CONDEMNED DURING 1946.

CATTLE

							T.	C.	Q.
Physiological Poorness	...	...	...	...	3184 lbs.	=	1	8	48
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	47502 lbs.	=	21	4	14
Cirrhosis and Distomatosis	...	...	...	...	11717 lbs.	=	5	4	69
Parasitic Cysts	...	...	...	...	1693 lbs.	=		15	13
Abscesses (Pyogenic)	...	...	...	...	3094 lbs.	=	1	7	70
Angiomatosis	...	...	...	...	1531 lbs.	=		13	75
Actinomycosis	...	...	...	...	303 lbs.	=		2	79
Septic Metritis and Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	1085 lbs.	=		9	77
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	986 lbs.	=		8	90
Johne's Disease, Emaciation and Dropsy	...	...	...	...	14085 lbs.	=	6	5	85
Injury, Bruising and Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	2229 lbs.	=		19	101
Pericarditis—Septic	...	...	...	...	854 lbs.	=		7	70
Inflammation	...	...	...	...	66 lbs.	=			66
Melanosis	...	...	...	...	15 lbs.	=			15
Mastitis	...	...	...	...	1384 lbs.	=		12	40
Fatty Infiltration	...	...	...	...	93 lbs.	=			93
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	107 lbs.	=			107
Moribund—Decomposing	...	...	...	...	3844 lbs.	=	1	14	36
Died in Lairage	...	...	...	...	751 lbs.	=		6	79
Pyaemic Polyarthrititis	...	...	...	...	120 lbs.	=		1	8
Immaturity	...	...	...	...	99 lbs.	=			99
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	128 lbs.	=		1	16
Septicaemia	...	...	...	...	430 lbs.	=		3	94
Gangrene	...	...	...	...	61 lbs.	=			61
Total Weight Condemned	...	...	...	...	95,361 lbs.	=	42	11	49

SHEEP

Distomatosis	...	...	...	...	1719 lbs.	=		15	39
Strongylosis	...	...	...	...	467 lbs.	=		4	19
Abscesses	...	...	...	...	482 lbs.	=		4	34
Dropsical and Emaciated	...	...	...	...	1004 lbs.	=		8	108
Parasitic Cysts	...	...	...	...	634 lbs.	=		5	74
Injuries, etc.	...	...	...	...	493 lbs.	=		4	45
Physiological Poorness	...	...	...	...	615 lbs.	=		5	55
Septic Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	326 lbs.	=		2	102
Moribund	...	...	...	...	306 lbs.	=		2	82
Mastitis	...	...	...	...	173 lbs.	=		1	61
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	81 lbs.	=			81
Metritis	...	...	...	...	79 lbs.	=			79
Septic Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	318 lbs.	=		2	94
Sepsis	...	...	...	...	47 lbs.	=			47
Haemorrhage...	...	...	...	...	11 lbs.	=			11
Pyaemia	...	...	...	...	59 lbs.	=			59
Fatty Infiltration	...	...	...	...	123 lbs.	=		1	11
Total Weight Condemned	...	...	...	...	6937 lbs.	=	3	1	105

PIGS

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	605 lbs.	=		5	45
Haemorrhage and injury	...	...	...	...	355 lbs.	=		3	19
Inflammation	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.	=			3
Abscesses	...	...	...	...	407 lbs.	=		3	71
Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	68 lbs.	=			68
Emaciated	...	...	...	...	125 lbs.	=		1	13
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	...	5 lbs.	=			5
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	12 lbs.	=			12
Total Weight Condemned	...	...	...	...	1580 lbs.	=		14	12

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED.

45 lbs. Sausage.
205 lbs. Bacon.
1041 lbs. Fish.
2964 Pikelets.
43 lbs. of Cheese.
15 Jars Pickles.
10 lbs. Butter.
10 pkts. Dried Egg.
80 lbs. Chocolate Confectionery.
2½ boxes Canadian Apples.

2127 tins of Various Foodstuffs.
6 bags Flour.
105 lbs. Dates.
8 doz. Fish Cakes.
60 lbs. of Oranges.
4 Pork Pies.
386 lbs. Dried Fruit.
27 lbs. Barley Flakes.
89 lbs. Bananas.
122 lbs. Chestnuts.

SUMMARY

***Grand Total Weight (Meat and Foods) Condemned :**

47 tons, 7 cwts., 49 lbs.

,, ,, ,, (Meat) Condemned : **46 tons, 7 cwts., 54 lbs.**

,, ,, ,, (Tuberculosis) **21 tons, 9 cwts., 59 lbs.**

*Excluding Miscellaneous Condemnations.

SUMMARY OF MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION (5 YEARS)

1942 — 1943 — 1944 — 1945 — 1946

In January, 1940, the use of private Slaughterhouses (of which we had 17 in the Borough) was discontinued and a Government Scheme for the Slaughtering and distribution of Meat came into operation. The Slaughterhouse and Allocation Depot is situated at Lion Square. Under the Scheme the centralised premises in this Borough serve the following districts: Kidderminster Borough, Bewdley Borough, Stourport U.D., Kidderminster R.D., and Tenbury R.D.

NUMBER OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED.					AMOUNT OF MEAT CONDEMNED					
Year	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves	Weight of Meat and Offal Rejected			Weight Amount Affected with Tuberculosis		
					T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.
1942	2,386	16,020	307	699	26	6	0	14	13	2
1943	2,592	13,829	166	1,122	29	1	0	14	3	2
1944	2,886	12,690	145	966	27	8	1	12	16	1
1945	3,246	8,613	489	1,037	38	4	0	18	4	1
1946	4,510	12,231	189	1,433	46	7	2	21	9	2

REMARKS :

No food is rejected unless there is definite evidence that it is unfit for HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

No food is destroyed but is disposed of to the Waste Product Merchants (contractors to the Ministry of Food) for Animal Foods or Industrial purposes.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938
 and

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD)
REGULATIONS 1925 to 1939

Total Number of Samples taken during the year 1946 ... 150

Malt Cup, 1. Bicarbonate of Soda, 1. Turmeric, 2. Milk, 122. Sausages, 6. Lemonade 13. Soya Flour, 2. Cocoa, 1. Coffee and Chicory Essence, 1. Ground Ginger, 1.

4 samples of milk were reported upon adversely by the Public Analyst. All were informal samples. Three showed slight deficiencies of Fat and one solids-not-fat. In each case a "repeat" sample was taken. 10 samples (informal) of Lemonade showed deficiencies of Sugar.

Two samples of meat (fresh veal with sections of Kidneys) were submitted and examined for the presence of arsenic and lead with negative results.

ICE CREAM.

Set out below are the results of samples of Ice Cream taken during the year, viz. :

Sample No.	Bacteria Count per m.l.	B. COLI	Fat
403	120,000	Present in 1/1000th m.l.	4.1%
404	720,000	Present 1/1000th., m.l.	1.6%
405	560,000	Present 1/1000th., m.l.	7.4%
414	240,000	Absent in 1 m.l.	1.1%

In view of the recent publicity given to Ice Cream in the national press, it is interesting to record in this report an Extract from my Report for the year 1932.

"Further legislation is urgently needed enabling all Sanitary Authorities to deal effectively with conditions under which Ice Cream is prepared, stored and sold; in addition, all premises should be registered. A legal standard, both chemical and bacteriological, should be fixed, and also a definition of the term 'Ice Cream.'

"I would suggest as a chemical standard that ice cream should contain not less than 10 per cent. butter fat, and not less than 20 per cent. total milk solids. The bacteriological standard should be fixed at not more than 50,000 bacteria per millilitre with no coliform bacillus in one tenth of a millilitre."

MILK (Special Designations) ORDER 1936.
BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

Sample	No. Taken	Methylene Blue Test		Coliform Test		No. did Not Satisfy Phosphatase Test
		No. satisfied Test	No. did not satisfy Test	No. satisfied Test	No. did not satisfy Test	
Designated Milks :						
T.T. (Cert.) ...	7	7	...	7	...	...
T.T. ...	13	12	1	12	1	...
Accredited ...	6	5	1	6	...	...
Pasteurised ...	31	31	...	31	...	4
T.T. Past. ...	5	5	...	5	...	...
Heat Treated ...	26	26	...	26	...	4
Sterilised... ..	12	12	...	12	...	...
TOTAL ...	100	98	2	99	1	8

Common Lodging Houses.

The eight registered houses in the Borough are the objects of frequent attention and are visited regularly. These houses have accommodation for 164 lodgers.

Bakehouses

The inspection of bakehouses has again been carried out throughout the year and resulted in the bakehouses being maintained at the same high hygienic standard as previous years.

The following occasional matters required attention :

Lime-washing of bakehouses	7
Dirty troughs and floors	3

Offensive Trades

The appended list of establishments gives those trades which are scheduled in this area as offensive trades :

Fish Friers	23
Gut Scraper	1
Tripe Boiler	3
Hide and Skin Trades	1

Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915

Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926

Under the above enactments we have registered the following :

Retail Purveyors of Milk	43
Wholesale Traders of Milk	20
Residents, Purveyors of Milk	28
Residents, Cow-keepers	7

(The above figures are exclusive of small shops selling sealed bottled milk only).

We have seven cow-keepers in the Borough who use thirteen cowsheds for the housing of approximately 90 cows. Frequent visits are made to the premises.

Disinfestation of Premises, Clothing, etc.

The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority, mainly combating the more common house pests, viz. : bed-bugs, fleas, cockroaches, etc.

The method chiefly used is by spraying with insecticide (containing D.D.T.) and wherever possible, such fittings as picture rails, skirting boards, architraves, and wall papers are removed, all defective plaster being made good afterwards.

Such articles as blankets, mattresses, pillows or clothing have been subjected to steam disinfection.

Many persons apply to the Department for advice on control and eradication of vermin, and incidental to this it has been the practice to supplement advice by supplying quantities of insecticide, (gratis) and sprays (on loan) to many of such persons with gratifying results in a good number of cases.

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 271 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | 271 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 | Nil |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | Nil |
| (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in such a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | Nil |
| (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the sub-head above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... | Nil |

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT THE SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	227
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3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	44
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice :—	
(a) By owners	42
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

Summary of Notices Served

Preliminary notices served (for housing defects)	162
Intimation letters sent (<i>re</i> sanitary defects)	60
Abatement notices served (for housing defects)	17
Reminder Notices served (for housing defects)	12

Infectious Diseases

Notices to School Medical Officer	19
Notices to Head Teachers	27
Notices to Parents	28
Certificates granted for children to attend school	23

PUBLIC CLEANSING (Salvage and Refuse Collection and Disposal)

*The cost of collection and disposal of salvage and refuse for the year 1946 was	£	s.	d.
...	18837	0	0
*The income was	7879	0	0
<hr/>			
The net cost being	10958	0	0
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*Financial Year ended 31st March, 1947.

SALVAGE

The total WEIGHT of all Salvaged Materials collected and disposed of during the Twelve Months amounted to 1,456 TONS of PAPER, METALS, RAGS, BONES, KITCHEN WASTE, etc., etc., the INCOME from the Materials disposed of being £7,787.

KITCHEN WASTE

Collected and disposed of for sterilised Pig and Poultry Food.
Weight: 563 tons, 2 cwts., 0 qrs.

LOADS OF SALVAGE

Collected and taken to Main Salvage Depots, 1,886.

RECORD OF SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR 1946.

Month					Weight of Salvage			Income from Sale		
					Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
January	...	...	...	...	147	7	0	721	1	8
February	...	...	...	...	132	13	0	627	9	8
March	...	...	...	...	120	0	3	624	16	4
April	...	...	...	...	111	16	0	590	6	8
May	...	...	...	...	129	5	0	700	12	10
June	...	...	...	...	127	9	2	681	5	10
July	...	...	...	...	152	13	2	739	4	7
August	...	...	...	...	96	2	0	556	9	9
September	...	...	...	...	117	10	1	700	17	11
October	...	...	...	...	127	15	3	766	10	4
November	...	...	...	...	99	0	1	544	5	3
December	...	...	...	...	94	13	1	534	12	2
TOTALS					1456	6	1	£7787	13	0

The weights of the salvaged materials have been segregated and are set out below.

Materials					Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	...	...	...	...	416	0	0	2780	1	9
Baled Tins	...	...	...	...	176	8	1	307	8	9
Heavy Scrap	...	...	...	...	27	5	2	67	17	3
Light Scrap	...	...	...	...	20	7	0	47	13	9
Textiles	...	...	...	...	40	9	1	538	2	10
Household Bones	...	...	...	...	9	6	3	50	8	5
Cullet (Broken Glass)	...	...	...	...	99	5	2	198	1	0
Non-Ferrous Metals	...	...	...	...	11	1	3	199	11	6
Aluminium	...	...	...	...	3	2	2	75	0	0
Rubber	...	...	...	...	4	3	0	7	15	8
Bottles and Jars	...	...	...	...	18	15	2	216	14	0
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	66	19	1	198	1	3
Kitchen Waste	...	...	...	...	563	2	0	3100	16	10
					1456	6	1	£7787	13	0

COLLECTION OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE

Total No. of loads of Refuse removed (all vehicles)	...	...	...	...	6780
Dry Ashpits emptied	...	...	...	...	2
Closet Pans emptied	...	...	...	...	4208
Privies and Middens emptied	...	...	...	...	3
Loads of Night Soil removed	...	...	...	...	53

Disposal of Household Ashes

Tipped at Broadwaters	...	...	...	...	2058
Tipped at Puxton	...	...	...	...	2201
Tipped at Hoobrook	...	...	...	...	660
Tipped at Worcester Road	...	...	...	...	1803
Total	...	...	...	...	6722

Canal Boat Inspection

During the year frequent visits have been made to the Canal and Wharves, and inspections made in accordance with the Public Health Act, 1936 (Part X) Canal Boats, and the Canal Boat Regulations, 1878.

The boats are not registered as dwellings in accordance with Section 250 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and the Canal Boat Regulations of 1878. (No new regulations have yet been issued as empowered by Section 251 of the Public Health Act, 1936).

The position would be clarified if a legal definition of a dwelling was in evidence and I trust that the expression dwelling will be defined in the new regulations.

The following figures are a synopsis of the year's work :—

Total boats on register in the Borough	...	...	4
Number of boats believed to be in use or available			4
Number of inspections	...	...	2

RAINFALL

YEARS 1945 AND 1946							
Monthly		Inches		RAINFALL FOR PAST TEN YEARS			
		1946	1945	Years			Inches
January	...	2.30	1.77	1937	...	...	34.41
February	...	1.80	1.13	1938	...	...	25.71
March	...	.68	1.89	1939	...	...	28.95
April	...	2.07	1.10	1940	...	...	28.19
May	...	3.05	1.16	1941	...	...	26.44
June	...	3.18	2.16	1942	...	...	22.01
July	...	1.27	1.42	1943	...	...	23.43
August	...	5.73	1.82	1944	...	...	24.50
September	...	3.82	1.96	1945	...	...	20.45
October	...	.95	3.11	1946	...	...	31.80
November	...	4.67	.01				
December	...	2.28	2.92				
Total	...	31.80	20.45	Average	...	...	26.59

RODENT CONTROL.

Prior to the appointment of a full time Rodent Operative in March, rodent control on a full Ministry of Food basis although fairly satisfactory, was not adequate.

The River Stour.

The highlight of the year's work is the initial treatment of the River Stour; a major infestation.

The total length of river treated was 3,270 yds., which was divided for this treatment into 7 sections.

Nos. 1 and 7 were test sections, used for the purpose of estimating the cost of total treatment.

Details of each section are as under :—

Section No.	Date Commenced 1946	Length of Section (Yards)	No. of Baits Laid	Poison Bait Laid	Bodies Picked Up	Date Completed
1	10 April	1640	300	65%	45	13 April
2	7 May	600	375	70%	41	11 May
3	14 May	700	250	75%	36	17 May
4	21 June	600	215	75%	67	1 July
5	22 July	1650	140	75%	57	25 July
6	24 June	880	246	35%	73	27 June
7	28 March	2200	240	50%	57	2 April

376 Bodies of rats were picked up.

Industrial and traders premises abutting the river were surveyed and treated as part of the campaign.

General Treatment.

In addition to the above major treatments, the Borough generally, has received excellent attention, Ministry of Food prescribed methods are diligently used and the Block control system has proved invaluable.

Below are some statistics which summarise briefly the work of the Rodent Operative during 1946.

RODENT CONTROL OPERATIONAL STATISTICS FOR 1946.

Premises Surveyed and Treated	No. Treated	Method	No. of Bodies Picked Up
Corporation Properties including Tips	14	Sausage Rusk Zinc Phosphide	805
Corporation Sewers—Manholes	295	„	211
Individual Business Premises	25	* „	200
Block Control—17 Blocks Consisting of Private and Business Premises	370	„	195

*Two of the Premises were treated with Arsenic and Sugar-Flour.

1946 being the first year of fully organised Control in this Borough, the above table relates only to initial treatments, maintenance is executed periodically as and when required.

MORTUARY.

During the year 25 bodies were received into the Public Mortuary.

CONCLUSION.

The year has been an extremely busy one, and the good progress of the Department has been well maintained.

I wish to express my indebtedness to Mr. J. B. Hinton and the staff for their continued co-operation and loyal service.

I am Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

G. A. NORTH,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

TO THE CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN AND
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

